

IN THE CLAIMS

sub p1
1. (Currently Amended) An information distributing method for distributing information subjected to billing in an information distributing system, characterized in that an amount of money billed to a user each subsequent time said information is distributed to said user is determined depending on the number of times that said information has previously been distributed to each user within a predetermined time period, each said amount of money billed being determined independently for each time said information is distributed.

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2. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information distributing method according to claim 1, wherein

said time period is one from a predetermined time point to a current time point.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information distributing method according to claim 1, wherein

said time period is a definite term from a predetermined time point.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information distributing method according to claim 1, wherein

said time period is one from an optionally set time point to a current time point.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information distributing method according to claim 1, wherein
said time period is one from a first optionally set time point to a second optionally set time point.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information distributing method according to claim 1, wherein
said time period is a definite term from an optionally set time point.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information distributing method according to claim 1, wherein
said time period is a definite term down to the current time point.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information distributing method according to claim 1, wherein
said time period is one until an optionally set time point.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information distributing method according to claim 1, wherein
when said number of times of distribution reaches a previously set number of times or more, said amount of money billed for said information is raised.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information distributing method according to claim 1, wherein

when said number of times of distribution reaches a previously set number of times or more, said amount of money billed for said information is reduced.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information distributing method according to claim 1, wherein

said amount of money billed for said information is determined depending on a value obtained by substituting said number of times of distribution for a previously set function.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information distributing method according to claim 1, wherein

said information is audio information, video information, game information or book information, or any combination of them.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information distributing method according to claim 1, wherein

said information is distributed by using wireless communication or wired communication.

14. (Currently Amended) An information distributing method for distributing information subjected to billing in an information distributing system, characterized in that an amount of money billed to a user each subsequent time said information is distributed to said user is determined in a composite manner depending on respective numbers of times that said information has previously been distributed to each user in a plurality of set terms, each said amount of money billed being determined independently for each time said information is distributed.

15. (Currently Amended) An information distributing method for distributing information subjected to billing in an information distributing system, characterized in that a receiver selects at least one term of a plurality of set terms and an amount of money billed to a user each subsequent time said information is distributed to said user is determined depending on the number of times that said information has previously been distributed to each user in said selected term, each said amount of money billed being determined independently for each time said information is distributed.

16. (Currently Amended) An information distributing method for distributing information subjected to billing in an information distributing system, comprising the steps of:
~~an information distributing means for distributing said information to a user; and~~
~~a transaction means comprised of a means for counting the number of times said~~
information is previously distributed to each user; and
~~a means for controlling a billing system for billing~~ an amount of money for a next subsequent distribution depending on the number of previous distributions counted, each said

amount of money billed being determined independently for each time said information is distributed.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information distributing system according to claim 16, wherein

~~said transaction means comprises a means for comparing~~ the counted distribution number is compared with a reference value.

18. (Currently Amended) A transaction method to control a billing system for information to be distributed, comprising the steps of:

counting a number of previous distributions of said information to each user; and

controlling a billing information for billing an amount of money for a next subsequent distribution depending on a counted number of previous distributions, each said amount of money billed being determined independently for each time said information is distributed.

19. (Currently Amended) A The transaction method according to claim 18, wherein

said step for controlling a billing information includes a step for comparing said counted number of distribution with a reference value.

20. (Currently Amended) A transaction system to control a billing system for information to be distributed, comprising:

a means for counting a number of previous distributions of said information to each user; and

a means for controlling a billing information for billing an amount of money for a next subsequent distribution depending on a counted number of previous distributions, each said amount of money billed being determined independently for each time said information is distributed.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The transaction system according to claim 20, wherein

said means for controlling a billing information includes a means for comparing said counted number of distribution with a reference value.

22. (Currently Amended) A transaction method to control a billing system for information to be distributed, comprising the steps of:

counting the number of times that a content is previously distributed to each user during a predetermined time period, each user being billed at the time of distribution for an amount of money of said content;

~~changing~~ charging said amount of money to be billed to each user for a next subsequent distribution of said content based on the result of counting of said previous distributions; and

billing each user for said ~~changed~~ charged amount of money of said content when
said content is subsequently distributed to each user after said ~~changing~~ charging of the amount
of money, each said amount of money billed being determined independently for each time said
information is distributed.